been made in the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council;

(*b*) what was the reply of Government thereto?

A.—The CHIEF SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT (Mr. B. T. Kesavalengar).—

(*a*) Five times in the Representative Assembly and sixteen times in the Legislative Council.

(*b*) In reply to supplementary questions, the First Member of Council stated on behalf of Government during the Legislative Council meeting held in June 1933 as follows :—

"The fact of the matter is this: conditions are somewhat abnormal throughout India and that is the real difficulty in placing a final Press Law for Mysore before the legislature. Things are so unsettled, I may quite frankly state. I think the member is aware that in British India, for instance, the Press Law has undergone some material changes. And I should like an important law of this nature to be enacted when conditions are more normal."

Mr. C. N. NARASINGA RAO.—For the last how many years are representations for repealing the Press Law in Mysore being made both in the Representative Assembly and in the Legislative Council?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—Notice.

Mr. C. N. NARASINGA RAO.—In answer to (*b*), it is stated that an important law of this nature would be enacted when conditions become more normal. Do the Government think that conditions have become normal in British India?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—Let us not discuss about conditions in British India.

Mr. C. N. NARASINGA RAO.—Has it not been stated in the Dewan's Address to the Representative Assembly some time ago that the Press in Mysore is sober?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—That is a separate matter and has nothing to do with the question before the House.

Mr. PRESIDENT.—Such supplementary questions cannot be answered. The member knows the difficulties in the matter of repealing the Press Law in Mysore. The matter is under consideration and a decision will be reached as early as possible.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA.—Under the existing law, how many presses have been punished?

Mr. B. T. KESAVAIENGAR.—No information at the moment.

REPRESENTATIONS—*contd.*

No. 20.—Authorising Deputy Commissioners or Sub-Division Officers to sanction tank remissions during *jamabandi*.

Mr. R. PUTTAVEERABHADRAPPA, Madhugiri Taluk.

Mr. R. PUTTAVEERABHADRAPPA represented that under the existing rules, special remissions were recommended by the revenue officers on the basis of the *pahani* accounts written by the shanbhogs. There was a great disadvantage to the raiyats in following that procedure. He prayed that instead of following that procedure, either the Deputy Commissioner or the Sub-Division Officer be empowered to sanction during *jamabandi*, tank remissions also as in the case of *talapariye* and *nala* remissions, after verification of the fact whether the tank had received sufficient supply or not.

Mr. G. SANKARA SETTY, in supporting the representation, said that once a remission application was made, it took nearly 2 to 3 years before it was sanctioned. There was delay at every stage of correspondence—in the taluk office, then in the Sub-Division Office and finally in the Deputy Commissioner's Office. As an instance in point, he said that orders had not been passed as yet on the recommendations made in 1934-35 for the grant of remissions in the Pavagada Taluk. Government should see that such delays were avoided and that orders on remission cases were issued within two months of their receipt. For that purpose, he thought that the jamabandi officers, who would be in a better position to know the actual conditions of the tract than the higher officers who were far away, might be empowered to sanction remissions in deserving cases, as in British India.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH pointed out that in very many cases two or three *khists* would have been collected before sanction of remissions, and once the assessment was collected, it took a long time

to get refund of the excess recovery. To avoid this inconvenience, he requested that orders in regard to remissions be passed before the commencement of collection work.

The PRESIDENT observed that it was desirable to dispose of remission cases before collections commenced and that necessary arrangements would be made in that behalf. He did not consider it necessary or desirable to empower the jamabandi officers to sanction remissions, as prayed for in the representation, as there was already a circular order to the effect that side by side with his recommendation to Government for the grant of remission, the Deputy Commissioner could himself suspend collection of half the wet assessment.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY said that what was required was that recommendations for remissions should be made well in advance of the collection season and suggested that effect should be given to the order referred to by the President.

The PRESIDENT said that circular instructions would issue to the Deputy Commissioners in the matter of giving effect to the order about suspension of collection of half the wet assessment as soon as they sent up recommendations for remission.

No .21.—Adjustment of excess payments of land revenue towards the next year's kandayam.

Messrs. Patti BASAPPA and Kamareddy MALLAPPA, Molakalmuru Taluk.

Mr. Patti BASAPPA represented that the excess collections of land revenue during any year were not being adjusted towards the land revenue dues for the subsequent year automatically. Refunds of excess recoveries were being sanctioned only on applications made; in all other cases, the money was being credited to Government. Such a procedure caused loss to the raiyats. He therefore prayed that arrangements be made to adjust the excess collections of kandayam automatically towards the land revenue dues of the following year as was prevalent in British India.

Mr. A. THAMMAIYA said that raiyats had to spend some money for getting refunds. He had known of an instance in which a party spent Rs. 10 for getting a refund of Rs. 28. If the excess amount was automatically adjusted towards the subsequent year's dues, there would be no room for such unnecessary expenditure.

Mr. Belur SRINIVASIENGAR represented that, as in the Electrical Department, the excess collections might be adjusted automatically towards the following year's kandayam.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that application for refund of the excess recovery was necessary as a safeguard against double claims. For instance, though such a procedure might be possible in places where the Record of Rights Scheme had been introduced, in other places it would not be possible to ascertain which hissedar had paid the excess. It was therefore that Government had ordered that the interested party should apply to the jamabandi officer to credit the excess to the subsequent year's dues. This was done more with a view to safeguard the rights of individual raiyats.

Mr. T. MARIYAPPA represented that even though the raiyats presented applications to the jamabandi officers for adjusting the amount towards the land revenue dues of the following year, such adjustments were not being made by them. He therefore suggested that circular orders be issued to the revenue officers in the matter.

Mr. P. SITHARAMIAH pointed out that in the Madras Presidency, excess recoveries were being automatically adjusted towards the revenue dues of the following year without anything like an application from the party concerned. He asked why a similar procedure should not be adopted in the State. If an application was insisted upon, it would take a long time to dispose it of. So, he suggested that at least in places where the Record of Rights Scheme had been introduced, the proposal made in the representation be adopted.

Mr. Bagamane DEVA GOWDA thought that automatic adjustment by the revenue officers of the excess recovery towards the following year's

land revenue dues might lead to complications. For this reason, he was in favour of the party concerned applying for the necessary adjustment.

The PRESIDENT observed that an application from the concerned party was necessary and that no change in the present practice was called for.

No. 22.—Grant of time till December 1936 for the payment of land revenue arrears.

Mr. Hosakoppa KRISHNA RAO, Koppa Taluk.

Mr. Bagamane DEVA GOWDA represented that as a result of the vigorous coercive measures adopted by revenue officers for recovery of arrears due by poor land-owners, by selling their lands and distraining movables, they were subjected to great hardships. In the malnad especially, the raiyats would have taken advances for growing arecanut, cardamom, etc., and they should have to repay these advances as well as pay the assessment due to Government. To meet both demands they should realise good prices for their produce and that would be possible only if they sold it 2 or 3 months after the harvest and not immediately after it. For these reasons he requested that the Government be pleased, in consultation with the Revenue Commissioner, to instruct the local revenue officers not to resort to coercive measures so far as the current year was concerned till the month of December 1936.

Mr. V. V. IYER supported the representation and added that the concessions given to the malnad raiyats during the previous year be granted in the current year also.

Mr. MEER MAHOMED SAHIB said that more than extending the time till December for the payment of assessment, it was necessary to reduce assessment on coffee lands and to give takavi loans to planters liberally.

The REVENUE COMMISSIONER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman) observed that according to the Land Revenue Code, land revenue was the paramount charge on the land, and it was therefore the duty of every raiyat to see that it was paid first and then meet his other obligations. As regards the request for the grant of time till December 1936 for the payment of assessment, he said that conditions were not so bad as to warrant any such concession and that individual cases of hardship, if any, would be dealt with sympathetically if brought to the notice of the revenue officers. He added that the concessions shown in the previous year had been sanctioned during the present year also.

No. 24.—Increasing the number of *khists* for the payment of land revenue.

Messrs. VEERE GOWDA, Dodballapur Taluk; **S. KARIAPPA, M. LINGE GOWDA** and **Gurukar VENKATARAMANE GOWDA**, Kankanhalli Taluk; **T. MADIAH GOWDA** and **V. VENKATAPPA**, Channapatna Taluk; **R. DASAPPA** and **K. RUDRAPPA**, Devanhalli Taluk; **VEERASANJEEVA GOWDA** and **M. B. GURULINGIAH**, Closepet Taluk; **H. GANGAPPA**, Magadi Taluk; **S. SHARABANNA**, Anekal Taluk; **J. V. CHENNAPPA** and **GURUSWAMI GOWDA**, Hoskote Taluk; **B. M. MUNISWAMAPPA**, Bangalore Taluk; **S. T. MALLASETTAPPA**, Nelamangala Taluk; **B. L. BYANNA**, Bangalore City Municipality; **A. M. VENKATASAMIA**, Closepet Municipality; **S. G. SANKARAIAH**, Dodballapur Municipality; **Shroff RANGASWAMI CHETTY**, Magadi Municipality; **Yejaman CHANNAPPA**, Devanhalli Municipality; **R. RANGAIYA**, Channapatna Municipality; **K. Y. T. VENKATACHALIAH**, Kankanhalli Municipality; **T. L. GANGOJI RAO, B. C. RANGAPPA, M. ABDUL JABBAR, S. MUNIVENKATAPPA** and **M. ABBOY**, Minorities, and **Mogenhalli SIDDE GOWDA**, Special Interests.

Mr. VEERE GOWDA represented that land revenue assessment was at present being recovered in four instalments from February. As crops would not have been harvested in all cases by February and as the prices of agricultural produce had fallen very low and was not likely to appreciate in the near future, he prayed that kandayam be arranged to be recovered in six instalments commencing from March. He added that such an arrangement would help the raiyats to pay their assessment regularly and without difficulty as the amount of each instalment would be smaller than what it was at present.

Messrs. C. PATTABHIRAMA SETTY and **PUTTARAMA SETTY**, in supporting

the representation, said that the raiyats would get money for paying assessment only in the month of March, after the sale of their produce.

Mr. H. KRISHNAMURTHY ACHAR was of the opinion that the present system was working satisfactorily and required no change

Mr. H. R. GURUVA REDDY was not in favour of the collections commencing from March, for the reason that the raiyats would spend away the proceeds from the sale of their crops by then, and would have little or nothing for paying the assessment when it fell due. While therefore he was for the continuance of the existing practice of the collections commencing from February, he thought that the number of instalments might be increased.

Mr. VEERE GOWDA said that dry crops which in most cases formed the wherewithal for the payment of assessment, could not be harvested before March and as such, agriculturists could not pay assessment before March.

Mr. JATHARE NAIK pointed out that by increasing the number of instalments the raiyats would not stand to benefit. He suggested that the existing practice might continue and concessions in other directions be shown to them.

The PRESIDENT observed that even under the existing system the raiyats could pay the assessment till the end of June. To extend the period further was not possible as it was likely to affect the budget coming into force from 1st July of each year.

No. 25.—Grant of loans to arecanut cultivators at reduced rates of interest.

Mr. Tudki RAMANNA GOWDA, Tirthahalli Taluk.

Mr. Tudki RAMANNA GOWDA represented that as the moneylenders were not freely advancing loans to arecanut growers as in the past, the latter were finding it very difficult to raise any crop on their lands. As a result of this, they had almost reached a stage of giving up cultivation altogether. Not only were the cultivators suffering losses on account of even fertile lands getting deteriorated but also the Government were losing their revenue as a consequence thereof. For these reasons, he prayed that adequate provision be made for grant of loans to arecanut cultivators at reduced rates of interest, as in the case of loans to coffee planters.

Mr. Bagamane DEVA GOWDA, in supporting the representation, said that the price of arecanut had gone down considerably so much so that the growers were not in a position to realise even their actual cost of cultivation. Also, moneylenders were not advancing money to them as freely as they did in the past as a result of the introduction of the Agriculturists' Relief Regulation. The arecanut growers had no money either to take measures for the prevention of *koleroga* or for raising any crops. It was therefore very necessary that the Government should go to the rescue of the arecanut growers by advancing them loans at reduced rates of interest, as prayed for. Government were able to raise money at 3 or 4 per cent interest and they in their turn might grant loans to the arecanut planters at, say, not more than 5 per cent on adequate security.

Mr. K. SUBBA RAO said that at present arecanut cultivators had no banking facilities and were paying heavy interest to Marwaris from whom they had borrowed money. There were no depots for sale of their crops, near at hand and they had therefore to transport their produce to distant places and leave it in the hands of *mandi* merchants for being sold. It was not in all cases that they got a reasonable price for their produce. At times they had to sell it at a price much lower than their actual cost price. In all these ways they were being put to loss. For these reasons he considered that Government should go to the rescue of the arecanut growers by giving them loans on a liberal scale at a reduced rate of interest.

The REVENUE COMMISSIONER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman) observed that the question of the grant of relief to arecanut growers was under the active consideration of the Government. It was not possible, he said, to grant advances to them on the same conditions on which loans had been given to

coffee planters, as coffee industry stood on a different footing altogether. The Government were therefore considering other means of relief.

No. 26.—Abolition of coffee cess.

Mr. MEER MOHAMED SAHIB, Minorities.

Mr. MEER MOHAMED SAHIB represented that, as a result of the unprecedented fall in the price of coffee, coffee planters were not realising even their working expenses. With the greatest difficulty they were paying kandayam and they were absolutely unable to pay the cess. For these reasons he prayed that the coffee cess might be abolished at least temporarily.

Mr. Bagamane DEVA GOWDA said that he was one of those who had opposed the levy of the cess when first it was contemplated. But he had to change his view subsequently as the entire amount realised by the levy of the cess was being utilised on the coffee experimental farm which was doing splendid work in the direction of improving the coffee industry. If the cess was abolished as prayed for, the receipts under the experimental farm would fall by as much as Rs. 17,000 and to that extent the work in the farm would suffer. He however thought that if it was possible to abolish the cess without detriment to the work of the experimental farm, it might be done.

Dharmapravartha M. L. NAGAPPA SETTY said that, as the amount now realised by way of coffee cess was not sufficient to meet the growing demands on the experimental farm for research work, the proposal to abolish the cess should not be accepted. It was the view of the several planters' associations, on the other hand, that a higher rate of cess should be levied. For these reasons he opposed the representation.

In explaining the position, **the DIRECTOR of AGRICULTURE (Dr. B. Narasimha Iyengar)** appreciated the fact that no member had suggested the abolition of the experimental farm. The farm was actively engaged in investigating remedial measures for the prevention of diseases to the coffee crop. Great headway had been made in research work and as a result thereof and also by the use of chemical manure it had become possible on the one hand to increase the yield of crop and on the other to reduce considerably the cost of spraying per acre. In both these ways, there was a saving of Rs. 5 to 6 lakhs to the coffee planters. Further investigations were being made to find out plants which would be resistant to diseases. To examine each generation of plant, it required about 4 years. All these went to show the necessity for continuing the experimental farm. But as the proposed abolition of the cess would virtually amount to closing down the farm, he hoped that the House would not lend its support to the representation.

The PRESIDENT observed that as the Coffee Cess Regulation would be in force till 1940, the question of the abolition of the cess might be considered after that date.

No. 27.—Improving the condition of coffee estates.

Messrs. B. K. SOME GOWDA and B. DEVAPPA GOWDA, Manjarabad Taluk.

Mr. B. K. SOME GOWDA represented that coffee estates were deteriorating on account of pests such as 'dieback,' 'borer,' etc., to coffee plants. The price of coffee reaped in spite of these pests had considerably fallen down. He therefore prayed that Government be pleased to take suitable measures to alleviate these difficulties.

The PRESIDENT observed that the Government were aware of the prevalence of these pests and diseases in coffee estates and that the Agricultural Department was doing its best to help the planters in combating them.

No. 28.—Modification of the rules for the grant of coffee takavi loans.

Mr. B. N. BORANNA GOWDA, Belur Taluk.

Mr. B. N. BORANNA GOWDA represented that while it was praiseworthy that a provision of Rs. 3 lakhs was made in the current year's budget to afford relief to coffee planters in the State, the rules governing the grant of this relief did not help the planters who were keenly suffering owing to the fall in the price of coffee. He therefore

prayed that an additional provision of Rs. 12 lakhs be made for the purpose and that the rules be modified on the lines of those for the Land Mortgage Bank so that the loans might be repaid in easy instalments and the properties saved to the planters.

Mr. Bagamane DEVA GOWDA, while thanking the Government for having provided Rs. 3 lakhs in the current year's budget to afford relief to coffee planters, said that the planters could not take advantage of the provision because Government were insisting upon their furnishing security for the money to be lent. As a result of this, only about Rs. 65,000 could be granted to the planters by way of loans so far. He thought that if the existing restrictions about furnishing security were removed and an additional sum of Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 lakhs was provided for the purpose, the coffee planters might stand to benefit to a large extent. The Government need have no doubt about the recovery of their advances. At present the west coast firms were lending money to the coffee planters on the mortgage of the crop and were realising their advances without any difficulty after the sale of the crop. The Mysore Bank also was lending money on personal securities. The Government could adopt the same procedure.

The PRESIDENT observed that the Government had for the present provided a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs for the purpose and that they would be prepared to provide more if there was demand for it. It was rather difficult for them to provide as much as Rs. 12 lakhs as suggested in the representation. As regards the modification of the rules, he said that he had discussed the point with the planters and local officers during his recent tour in the Shimoga and Kadur Districts and the entire matter was under the consideration of the Government.

No. 31.—Relief in cases of encroachments on Government lands.

Mr. B. DONDE GOWDA, Hassan Taluk.

Mr. B. DONDE GOWDA represented that Government were doubtless aware of the fact that poor and illiterate raiyats were subjected to great hardship and loss in very many *takrar* cases for encroachment on Government lands all over the State. There would not be occasion for such cases to arise if only the local officers got the boundary marks of lands set right during their *pahani* inspections every year. It would be unjust to neglect the inspection of boundary marks for a length of time, allow the raiyats to enjoy the lands effecting improvements thereto at great cost and then cause trouble to them. For these reasons he prayed that the village and other local officers be required to conduct the *pahani* inspections every year and to give proper instructions to raiyats whenever encroachments were discovered during the inspections and thus save them all the trouble.

Mr. C. N. NARASINGA RAO, in supporting the representation, said that for want of adequate attention on the part of revenue officers, people had encroached upon Government lands, especially round about Bangalore City. As a result of this, the Government were losing revenue rightly due to them. Immediate action to check these encroachments was necessary, as otherwise it would become difficult to get back these lands.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY said that, as a general rule, the raiyats did not wantonly encroach upon Government lands. But here and there they might do so for want of proper boundary marks to guide them. Once a raiyat encroached upon a Government land, he would continue to be in possession of it till such time as *takrar takhtes* were filed. In some cases, such *takrar takhtes* were filed after a number of years. To resume the land at that stage, for the fault of the revenue officers not detecting the encroachments earlier, would not be justifiable, especially when the raiyat would have spent large sums of money on its improvement. For these reasons, he suggested that village officers be held responsible to detect encroachments, and the lands encroached upon and enjoyed by the raiyats for over three years be given away to the raiyat concerned and *kandayam* levied on them

instead of their being resumed to Government.

The PRESIDENT observed that in certain cases the lands would be resumed and in others, they would be confirmed in the name of the holders. It depended upon the circumstances of each case.

Mr. VEERASANJEEVE GOWDA refuted the statements made by the previous speakers and said that the revenue officers were regular in inspecting the boundary marks at the time of field inspections every year and were giving notices to the raiyats to get their boundary marks fixed. But the raiyats did not care to safeguard their own interests by fixing the boundary stones. However, to prevent *takrar takhtes* later on, he suggested that the revenue officers might arrange to replace the missing boundary marks by Government agency and debit the cost to the parties concerned. Speaking from his experience, he could say that the raiyats had encroached upon Government lands such as tank beds, etc., knowingly, and were not giving back the lands even after the filing of *takrar takhtes*. Government should see that the lands encroached upon were resumed to them irrespective of the period of encroachment.

Messrs. D. NARAYANA REDDY and **M. S. PUTTARAMA SETTY** were also of the view that the existing rules were quite all right and did not call for any change.

Mr. H. K. MADIAH said that at the time of jamabandi, the village officers should inspect the lands and see whether there were any encroachments by any raiyat. From his personal experience he could say that encroachments were mostly in tank beds and such other common lands. Sometimes, for obvious reasons, the village officers did not prepare *takrar takhtes* in respect of the encroachments, with the result that the raiyats concerned were punished heavily at a later stage when the encroachment was detected. All these defects could be overcome by revenue officers undertaking a regular inspection of the lands during the jamabandi time.

The PRESIDENT said that the attention of the revenue officers would be invited to the rules in the matter.

No. 32.—Introduction of survey and settlement into jodi villages of Chiknaikanhalli Taluk.

Messrs. C. PATTABHIRAMA SETTY, Chiknaikanhalli Municipality; **G. KANCHAPPA** and **H. C. Mummadi VEERABHADRAPPA**, Chiknaikanhalli Taluk.

Mr. C. PATTABHIRAMA SETTY represented that at present the raiyats in alienated villages had no proper boundary marks for their lands and the holders of those villages, *i.e.*, the jodidars, recovered double the Government rate of assessment from the raiyats without providing any facility for proper supply of water. He therefore prayed that the introduction of survey and settlement be enforced into every such village with a view to safeguard the interests of the raiyats by revising the rates of assessment and fixing the boundary marks, etc. He further prayed that the survey of the alienated villages in the Chiknaikanhalli Taluk be arranged to be taken up along with the *hissa* survey proposed to be taken up in the ensuing year.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY enquired whether the Government had taken any action in the matter of giving effect to their orders on the Inam Committee Report relating to the introduction of survey and settlement in inam villages, and what extra staff had been entertained for the purpose. He also wanted to know the number of villages that had been surveyed and the period required for the completion of the work.

The PRESIDENT observed that the first step to be taken in the direction of introducing survey and settlement in inam villages was to amend the Land Revenue Code. Government had taken action in the matter and a bill was almost ready for being placed before the Assembly to ascertain its views. As regards information about establishment, etc., he said that they were matters to be considered after the passing of legislation on the subject.

No. 33.—Abolition of irrigation cess on wet lands cultivated by rain water.

Mr. H. MALLAPPA GOWDA, Sorab Taluk.

Mr. H. MALLAPPA GOWDA

prayed that the levy of irrigation cess on such of the wet lands as were irrigated by rain water only but not fed by the water of any tank or channel be abolished or that tanks be constructed for the irrigation of such lands.

Mr. V. V. IYER pointed out that irrigation cess was leviable only on wet lands cultivated by irrigation sources. That was because the Government would be spending large sums of money on the construction of such irrigation sources and the supply of water would be guaranteed. But so far as rain-fed lands were concerned, water supply was not guaranteed and at times it would not be possible to raise even dry crops on such lands. Such being the case, he did not see any reason why the irrigation cess should be levied on wet lands cultivated by rain water.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that the question of the abolition of the irrigation cess had been considered so long back as 1927 and the Government having ordered that it was not possible to abolish the cess, the matter could not be reopened.

Mr. V. V. IYER said that while remissions were being granted in respect of lands cultivated by irrigation sources, no such concession was being shown in respect of rain-fed lands. He prayed that at least during the years in which no crops were raised on wet lands fed by rain water the cess might be waived.

The PRESIDENT observed that that was an altogether different question and Government would consider the desirability or otherwise of showing any concessions in respect of such lands.

No. 34.—Reduction of compensation in revenue sales from 5 per cent to 2½ per cent.

Mr. Rattehalli RAMAPPA, Sagar Municipality.

Mr. Rattehalli RAMAPPA prayed that as the levy of compensation at 5 per cent in revenue sales was high, it might be reduced to 2½ per cent.

The PRESIDENT observed that the auction purchaser might have borrowed money at a much higher rate of interest and as such even the 5 per cent compensation at present allowed might not be considered too high. Besides, it was not advisable to reduce the compensation as it would discourage bidders in revenue sales. Even as it was, considerable difficulty was being felt in securing bidders. For these reasons he said that it was not possible to accede to the request contained in the representation.

No. 35.—Assignment of sufficient *gomal* lands for village cattle.

Messrs. T. MADIAH GOWDA and **V. VENKATAPPA**, Channapatna Taluk; **S. KARIAPPA, M. LINGE GOWDA** and Gurukar **VENKATARAMANE GOWDA**, Kankanhalli Taluk; **R. DASAPPA** and **K. RUDRAPPA**, Devanhalli Taluk; **VEERASANJEEVA GOWDA** and **M. B. GURULINGIAH**, Closepet Taluk; **VEERE GOWDA**, Dodballapur Taluk; **H. GANGAPPA**, Magadi Taluk; **S. SHARABANNA**, Anekal Taluk; **J. V. CHENNAPPA** and **GURUSWAMI GOWDA**, Hoskote Taluk; **B. M. MUNISWAMAPPA**, Bangalore Taluk; **S. T. MALLASETTAPPA**, Nelamangala Taluk; **B. L. BYANNA**, Bangalore City Municipality; **A. M. VENKATASAMIA**, Closepet Municipality; **S. G. SANKARAIAH**, Dodballapur Municipality; **Shroff RANGASWAMI CHETTY**, Magadi Municipality; **Yejaman CHANNAPPA**, Devanhalli Municipality; **R. RANGAIYA**, Channapatna Municipality; **K. Y. T. VENKATACHALIAH**, Kankanhalli Municipality; **T. L. GANGOJI RAO, B. C. RANGAPPA, M. ABDUL JABBAR, S. MUNIVENKATAPPA** and **M. ABBOY**, Minorities, and **Mogenhalli SIDDE GOWDA**, Special Interests.

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA represented that at present there were no *gomal* lands in many villages, and in some villages in which they existed, they were quite inadequate. Want of sufficient *gomal* lands had affected the cattle wealth of many villages, which was the mainstay of the agriculturists. The raiyats in many places did not even know that they might apply to Government for providing adequate extents of *gomal* lands. For these reasons he prayed that Government themselves should investigate into the sufficiency or otherwise of the existing *gomal* lands and provide adequate extents of lands for each village.

Mr. H. M. CHANNABASAPPA observed that the subject-matter of the representation had been discussed in the House some time ago and the members had in one voice asked that sufficient *gomal* lands should be provided

in every village. In a predominantly agricultural State like Mysore, the prosperity of the State depended on the welfare of its cattle. In fact, it was in recognition of this fact that sufficient *gomal* lands had been reserved in the past for each village. But, of late, large extents of lands had been given away for cultivation without the knowledge of the villagers concerned. It was possible for raiyats holding large extents of land to reserve a portion for the grazing of their own cattle. But poor raiyats could not command the same convenience and so there would be no *gomal* for their cattle. Thus, great hardship was being caused to cattle in the villages. For these reasons he thought that it was desirable that sufficient *gomal* be provided for each village.

The REVENUE COMMISSIONER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman) said that when there was a growing demand for lands for cultivation, preference to a certain extent had to be given to such applicants. All the same it was not correct to say that *gomal* lands had been given away for cultivation without the knowledge of villagers. Every time there was a *darkhast* for *gomal* lands for cultivation, the Government invariably consulted the villagers concerned and it was only if a majority of them were in favour of the proposal that the lands were given away for cultivation.

Also, it was a matter of common knowledge that in places where *gomal* lands existed, they were not being properly looked after by the concerned villagers. While he fully agreed that there was need to provide sufficient *gomal* for each village, he had his own doubts as to the availability of lands for being assigned for the purpose. Where, however, Government lands were available, they could be given after considering each case on its merits.

Mr. B. SRINIVASA RAO pointed out that influential people in many villages had induced Adikarnatakas to present *darkhast* applications for the grant of *gomal* lands for cultivation and later on purchased the lands from them. As the village cattle had thus lost all grazing facilities, he requested the Government to sympathetically consider the representation and provide an adequate extent of Government land for *gomal* purposes.

The PRESIDENT observed that there was no difference of opinion in respect of the need for adequate *gomal* for village cattle. Wherever Government lands were available, they could be assigned for *gomal* purposes. But where they were not available, it would not be possible to provide more *gomal* lands.

Mr. D. NARAYANA REDDY said that in Bagepalli Taluk the cattle of a certain village were going to *gomal* lands of other villages nearby. Of late, even those *gomal* lands had been included in the forest area with the result that considerable hardship had been caused to village cattle. He had represented the difficulties felt by the villagers in grazing their cattle to the Revenue Commissioner, but no relief had yet been secured from that officer. He requested the Government to sympathetically consider such cases and release for *gomal* purposes the lands recently included in the forest area.

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA said that from the answer to an interpellation during the previous Budget Session of the House, it was clear that in many villages in the Bangalore District there were no *gomal* lands and he therefore suggested that Government might acquire a few private lands and assign them for *gomal* purposes in such places.

The PRESIDENT replied that acquisition of private lands for *gomal* purposes was not possible.

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA suggested that in future no *darkhast* for the grant of *gomal* lands for cultivation purposes should be entertained by the department. He also added that attempts should be made to find out the actual *gomal* requirements of each village and set apart the required extent. If in any village Government lands were not available for being assigned for *gomal* purposes, at least the lands in neighbouring villages should be set apart for the purpose.

The PRESIDENT observed that the matter would be considered.

Mr. Surangi SIDDABASAPPA represented that difficulties in respect of fodder for cattle would be solved if Government permitted cattle to graze in State forests.

Mr. Bale SIDDALINGA SETTY brought to notice that even tank beds had been given away for cultivation, so that, even apart from the question of grazing, the cattle had no scope even to move about in the villages.

The PRESIDENT observed that under the rules in force the necessary extent of *gomal* had already been provided as far as possible in all places, and such lands were not being given away for cultivation without consulting the villagers concerned as to their actual requirements. If individual cases of hardship existed and if they were brought to the notice of the Government, enquiries would be made and relief provided wherever possible.

No. 36.—Grant of *mafi* licence to cut and remove trees grown on *hiduvali* lands.

Mr. CHANNAPPA, Davangere Taluk.

Mr. B. SRINIVASA RAO prayed that the land revenue rules be so amended as to empower the chairmen of respective village panchayets to issue *mafi* licences to cut and remove the trees grown on *hiduvali* lands! This would save the raiyats the trouble of going to the taluk offices situated sometimes several miles away from their villages for obtaining the licences.

The PRESIDENT observed that originally such licences were being granted by Sub-Division Officers, but recently the Amildars had been empowered to do so to enable the raiyats to get the licence more easily than in the past. It was not possible to accept the suggestion contained in the representation.

Mr. V. V. IYER suggested that at least Taluk Sheristedars be empowered to grant the licences.

Mr. H. M. CHANNABASAPPA said that what was required was expeditious disposal by the Amildars of the applications for grant of such licences. For this purpose, he suggested that a time-limit be fixed for the disposal of the applications.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY pointed out that as the Amildars were often away on tour, the raiyats were finding it difficult to get licences in time.

The PRESIDENT observed that in such cases the applications might be presented to the taluk office itself. He did not think that modification of the existing rules as prayed for was necessary as it would give much scope for abuse.

No. 40.—Relieving the raiyats from liability of executing maintenance works to tanks.

Mr. S. VENKATASAMI GOWDA, Malur Taluk.

Mr. Belur SRINIVASIENGAR observed that the subject-matter of the representation had been discussed many a time on the floor of the House in the past and the injustice of getting the maintenance work done by the raiyats freely had been pointed out. Government thereafter appointed Maramat Engineers for each district to look after the work of maintenance of tanks. That arrangement continued for some time. Later, the Maramat Department was abolished. Since then the responsibility for the maintenance of tanks in proper condition had been shifted on to the shoulders of the raiyats themselves. In his opinion the exaction of customary labour by the raiyats was unjustifiable for more than one reason. First, they were paying heavy wet assessment, including cesses, to Government. Even the Irrigation Committee had expressed the opinion that so long as Government were levying wet assessment, whether there was rainfall or not, it was their bounden duty to see that tanks were maintained well. Secondly, there were also difficulties in getting the work done by customary labour. It was very difficult, for instance, to fix the exact quantum of labour that each person deriving benefit from the tank should contribute. A raiyat might hold 5 acres of land and another raiyat might hold 10 acres and yet another a few guntas only, under a tank. Again, a raiyat might have holdings under different tanks situated far away. In such cases it was difficult to determine who all should contribute the labour and to what extent. Supervision

over their work was also impossible. Nowhere else did such a system of customary labour existed. For these reasons he prayed that the Government themselves should maintain the tanks at their own cost according to a definite programme. He added that by such an arrangement all tanks could be improved and there would perhaps be no occasion for the people to ask for grant of remissions.

Mr. K. L. NANJAPPA NADIG supported the representation.

Mr. D. NARAYANA REDDY, in supporting the representation, said that maintenance of tanks had become a serious problem owing to the landholders and others deriving benefit from them not living in the villages concerned.

The REVENUE COMMISSIONER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman) observed that it was not correct to say that the system of customary labour was not in vogue anywhere else. He invited the attention of members to what was known as the *kudi maramat* system which was in vogue in the Madras Presidency and which was based on the the principle that the raiyats also had a responsibility to discharge in the matter of maintenance of tanks. It was on the basis of this principle, that *kandayam* had been fixed on the lands below tanks and the system in Mysore was akin to that. If it was said that customary labour should not be enforced, then it might become necessary for the Government to levy an acreage cess in commutation of maintenance work.

Continuing, **Mr. ANANTARAMAN** said that it was only people round about big cities that were against contributing labour for tank maintenance work. The raiyats, in villages where there were no party factions, were contributing their labour regularly. He was personally aware that the raiyats in Maluru, Bangalore District, had themselves undertaken the maintenance of the tank there, but as the work was not quite satisfactory, Government had to take it up and complete it.

The speaker did not think that even the fixing of the quantum of work to be put in by individual raiyats was a difficult task as the system had been in existence for a very long time.

Mr. H. M. CHANNABASAPPA said that the raiyats did not want to shirk their responsibility in the matter of tank maintenance. The main trouble was that at present there did not exist in the villages that unanimity and cordiality which existed in days gone by, and as such, no work entrusted to them could be expected to be done satisfactorily. For these reasons, he thought it was desirable to get the maintenance work done by the Government themselves.

Mr. CHANNABASAPPA was also not in favour of the levy of the acreage cess referred to by the Revenue Commissioner. At a time when the people were already clamouring for the reduction of *kandayam* since it was weighing heavily on them, no proposal for burdening the raiyat with any kind of additional taxation could be viewed with favour by the House.

Mr. JATHARE NAIK said that the present practice was working all right and no change seemed to be necessary.

The PRESIDENT observed that the Revenue Commissioner had explained the position clearly. This was an age-long practice and could not be modified. Besides, the House had given its consent to the bills to amend the Irrigation Regulation and the Minor Tanks Restoration Regulation in the matter of enforcing responsibility on the raiyats and inamdars in regard to the proper maintenance of tanks. It was therefore not possible to accept the proposal.

No. 41.—Conversion of Kumsi Sub-Taluk into a *pucca* taluk.

Mr. H. SULEMAN KHAN, Kumsi Sub-Taluk.

Mr. H. SULEMAN KHAN represented that the Kumsi Sub-Taluk was in the malnad part of the Shimoga District and the people found it difficult to go all the way to Shimoga for crediting money and cashing cheques and prayed that the sub-taluk be converted into a *pucca* taluk.

The PRESIDENT observed that the general question of the conversion of sub-taluks into taluks was engaging

the attention of the Government and orders would be passed in the matter shortly.

No. 42.—*Miras* to Thotis.

Mr. N. HANUMANTHAPPA, Minorities.

Mr. N. HANUMANTHAPPA represented that thotis and talaries had to attend to both Government and village duties. They had to attend to police work and night-watch in the villages. They had to carry the revenue collections to the patels and shanbhogs. They had to render several other kinds of service to people in the village. While the shanbhogs and patels were getting their *potgi* regularly, these village servants were not getting their *miras*. The rules relating to the grant of *miras* to them at the rate of three seers an acre were not being enforced, and they were not receiving *miras* properly. He therefore prayed that as in the case of shanbhogs, arrangements be made to pay the thotis and talaries regularly in cash or in kind.

Mr. Gurukar VENKATARAMANE GOWDA endorsed the above views.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY said that the thotis and talaries attended to Government work and for that they had been given inams. If they were not receiving their *miras* regularly from the raiyats, it was because they were not discharging their duties towards the raiyats. He therefore thought that Government would not be justified in insisting on the payment of *miras* whether in cash or in kind.

The REVENUE COMMISSIONER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman) observed that the subject had been discussed at great length at a previous session of the House and the Government had promised then that they would cause circular instructions to be issued to the Amildars and Deputy Amildars to enforce the rule if individual cases of hardship were brought to notice. Instructions had accordingly been issued directing them to give their personal attention to the matter. If there were cases of non-payment of *miras* in some places, it was perhaps due to the fact that no crops were grown during the past few years. For these reasons, he did not think that any arrangement regarding cash payment to thotis and talaries was necessary.

No. 43.—Allotment of agricultural waste lands to the unemployed among the depressed classes.

Mr. P. MURUGESAM PILLAY, Minorities.

Mr. P. MURUGESAM PILLAY represented that agricultural vacant lands be allotted to the educated unemployed young men of the depressed classes on colonization system, wherever such lands were available, in the districts of Mysore, Bangalore and Tumkur.

The PRESIDENT observed that as far as possible, lands would be given if the parties applied for them.

Mr. T. MARIYAPPA enquired whether such lands would be given to all uneducated unemployed, irrespective of the community to which they belonged.

Mr. H. M. CHANNABASAPPA said that as unemployment was increasing by leaps and bounds among educated youngmen, Government should consider the question of granting wet lands now lying uncultivated to such people. He also added that a committee might be appointed to investigate into the matter.

The PRESIDENT observed that Government were doing everything in their power to reduce unemployment.

At this stage, the House adjourned for lunch and reassembled at 3-30 p.m.

No. 210.—Each hobli headquarter to be made a polling centre.

Messrs. D. SIDDE GOWDA, DODDEGOWDA and S. NANJE GOWDA, Gubbi Taluk.

Mr. M. C. LINGE GOWDA represented that as there were 250 to 300 voters in each hobli, each hobli headquarter should be made a polling centre as it would be very convenient to the voters of the villages of the respective hoblis to go and vote therein.

Mr. Bagamane DEVA GOWDA represented that there was a pressing necessity for such a facility in the case of malnad where the villages were far removed from one another and consequently the voters felt considerable difficulty in having to cover long distances to reach the polling booths.

Mr. B. N. CHALUVE GOWDA supported the above speaker.

Mr. B. S. PUTTASWAMY thought that there was no necessity to give one polling centre for each hobli headquarter as in some cases the headquarters of two hoblis might be very near each other. He, however, had no objection to increasing the number of centres according to necessity.

Mr. Belur SRINIVASIENGAR, on the other hand, was of opinion that there should be one polling centre for each hobli but it need not necessarily be at the headquarters of the hobli. For example, the village of Madivala in Bangalore Taluk, though not a hobli headquarter, was made a polling centre in view of the fact that a weekly fair was being held there and people congregated in large numbers. Similarly, in the case of other hoblis also, the location of the polling station should be determined with reference to the importance of each locality.

Messrs. Bale SIDDALINGA SETTY and NANJAPPA NADIG pointed out that even as matters stood, out of 400 voters in a polling station only half the number attended the booth. While voters would not really be benefited, the candidates would feel it difficult to canvass votes. Also there might not be convenient buildings in all villages for holding elections. Above all, increase in the number of centres involved the employment of more polling officers and extra expenditure to Government. For these reasons, they were of opinion that the existing practice need not be changed.

Mr. H. HOMBE GOWDA did not agree with the preceding speakers and said that the question of extra expenditure did not arise since the polling officers were not paid any allowance. As the opening of additional centres would surely add to the convenience of the voters, he said that polling centres should be opened in every hobli even if there be only 250 or 300 voters.

Messrs. L. VEMA REDDY and T. MARIYAPPA were of opinion that it would be sufficient if the existing polling centres were added to as and when found necessary.

The PRESIDENT said that the several suggestions made by the members would be duly considered by Government. There were already 265 polling centres in the State, and in case it was found necessary to increase the number, suitable action would be taken in the matter.

No. 211.—Treating water-rate as part of land revenue to entitle persons to become eligible for inclusion in electoral rolls.

Mr. Patel SIDDE GOWDA, T.-Narsipur Taluk.

Mr. Patel SIDDE GOWDA represented that it was usual to levy temporary water-rate till the land was permanently reclassified as wet. He suggested that the water-rate might be treated as permanent wet assessment and included under the head of land revenue against the respective khatedars or hiduvalidars, and the names of such khatedars or hiduvalidars who would thus become eligible from the standpoint of land revenue qualification be brought on the electoral rolls of the District Board, the Representative Assembly, and the Legislative Council, and the voters' lists so prepared be verified with the Rent Roll (Form No. V) maintained in the taluk offices.

Messrs. M. C. LINGE GOWDA, S. C. MALLIAH, and SIVANANJE GOWDA said that the raiyats under the Krishnarajasagara Low Level Channel had been paying temporary water-rate for the last 8 or 10 years. Though there was a rule that when water-rate was paid uninterruptedly for a period of 5 years, the land concerned should be classified as wet and permanent wet assessment should be levied thereon, it was not being applied strictly in all cases. They therefore suggested that at least the raiyats who were paying water-rate for over 5 years, might be enfranchised for purposes of the different elections, as in the case of other khatedars or hiduvalidars.

Mr. V. V. IYER brought to notice that the raiyats under the Bhadra channel were subjected to similar disabilities and that their names also should be included in the voters' list.

Mr. B. S. PUTTASWAMY speaking in support of the representation, pointed

out that when the policy of the Government was in favour of increasing the franchise, there should be no objection to accepting the suggestion.

The PRESIDENT said that the question of treating the raiyats paying temporary water-rate for over 5 years as voters had already been considered and no further action was found necessary.

No. 212.—Patel or shanbhog of the village to publish the electoral rolls in the *chavadi* a week before they are sent to the taluk.

Messrs. M. C. LINGE GOWDA and **S. C. MALLIAH**, Maddur Taluk; **H. HOMBE GOWDA**, T.-Narsipur Taluk; **M. L. LINGANNA** and **H. HONNIAH**, Mandya Taluk, and **K. KEMPE GOWDA**, Mandya Municipality.

Mr. M. C. LINGE GOWDA prayed that in all future elections, it might be laid down that either the patels or the shanbhogs of the villages should publish the electoral rolls in the *chavadi* of the village concerned at least one week before they were sent to the taluk office and objections therefor invited. He also suggested that the Revenue Inspector might be required to submit to the taluk office the consolidated electoral roll with the objections received.

Messrs. K. L. NANJAPPA NADIG and **VEERASANJEEVA GOWDA** emphasised the need for publishing the voters' lists in the village *chavadies* and village panchayet offices.

The PRESIDENT explained that the village officers might not be familiar with the election rules and as such the voters' lists prepared by them could not be published before they were scrutinised by a responsible officer like the Amildar. The rules provided for the list of each village, after its final approval, being pasted in the *chavadi* and instructions would be issued that the rules should be strictly followed.

No. 213.—System of issuing coloured ballot balls in future elections.

Messrs. S. C. MALLIAH and **M. C. LINGE GOWDA**, Maddur Taluk; **H. HOMBE GOWDA**, T.-Narsipur Taluk; **M. L. LINGANNA** and **H. HONNIAH**, Mandya Taluk, and **K. KEMPE GOWDA**, Mandya Municipality.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH represented that the system of issuing coloured ballot balls instead of voting papers be introduced in future elections, as the illiterate villagers did not know how to vote on the paper, and felt it delicate to seek the help of others in marking their votes. Even if such help was sought and obtained, it would cause suspicions in the minds of candidates who had stood for election.

The PRESIDENT enquired whether the system of issuing coloured ballot balls was in vogue anywhere.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH replied that there was a proposal to introduce it in Burma.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that there were only 9 distinct colours and wondered how it would be possible to give one distinct colour to each candidate when the number of candidates exceeded 9. The proposal seemed impracticable.

Mr. W. H. HANUMANTHAPPA pointed out that the proposal could not be tried without first changing the existing electoral rules issued under the Regulation.

The PRESIDENT replied that the existing electoral rules were defective in certain respects and the question of improving them was under the consideration of Government. Hence there would be no harm in considering any suggestions in this respect, provided they were practicable.

Mr. B. S. PUTTASWAMY said that the practice obtaining in the matter of recording of votes by illiterate voters was not above suspicion and he therefore suggested that the polling officer should record the vote in such cases in the presence of the associate and not by himself.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that the suggestion was opposed to the fundamental principle of ballot voting, as secrecy could not be maintained if voting was to be recorded in the presence of two or three people. It was therefore not possible to accept the suggestion to allow the associate to witness the actual record of voting made on behalf of illiterate voters.

Mr. D. S. MALLAPPA thought that the existing practice of providing a symbol for each candidate was about the best and need not be changed. He said that so far as the illiterate voters

were concerned, they would have no difficulty in marking the voting paper with reference to the symbol of each candidate and as such they need not be assisted by the polling officers. But the polling officer should be required to assist only blind voters, if any, in marking the vote on voting paper. If that procedure was adopted, he was sure there would be no room for any kind of suspicion against the polling officers.

Mr. T. MARIYAPPA suggested that the symbols used must be sufficiently big and the voting paper selected must be white and not coloured.

The PRESIDENT said that the suggestion would be considered.

At this stage, **Mr. Anekal SRINIVASIENGAR** enquired when the Government could be expected to issue orders on the report of the committee appointed to revise the Rules and Regulations of the Assembly and the Council and whether the revised rules would be made applicable to the ensuing elections.

The PRESIDENT replied that that question was under consideration and definite information would be furnished to the House before the close of the Session.

No. 44.—Abolition of seigniorage levied from raiyats for grazing their cattle in District and State forests.

Mr. M. S. PUTTARAMA SETTY, Magadi Taluk.

Mr. M. S. PUTTARAMA SETTY represented that cattle were the mainstay of the agriculturist and with a view to improving the breed of cattle, the Government had been maintaining Amrit Mahal Kavals and spending lakhs of rupees over them. But there were no grazing facilities by way of *gomal* lands in several villages and it had become necessary to take the cattle to District and State forests for grazing. A seigniorage of 4 annas to 8 annas per head of cattle was being levied from the raiyats in spite of the fact that thousands of raiyats were helping the Government by giving free service in planting young trees for the improvement of such jungles. In the circumstances, the levy of seigniorage did not seem to be justifiable and he therefore prayed that the tax that was being levied on account of the raiyats' cattle grazing in such forests be abolished. The income from seigniorage was after all very small and he thought that the Government could well afford to forgo it.

Mr. Shroff RANGASWAMY SETTY, in supporting the representation, said that in the Magadi Taluk all the *gomal* lands had been given away for cultivation at nominal prices and thus the people had no option but to depend on the nearest forest for grazing facilities. As provision of *gomal* lands was an obligatory duty of the Government, he prayed that the fee that was being levied be abolished.

Mr. VEERASANJEEVA GOWDA, in further supporting the representation, said that in several places the forest boundary was quite adjacent to private lands and thus there was no common ground for the grazing of village cattle. In view of the fact that it was the duty of the Government to provide grazing land, he urged the abolition of the existing fee. He, however, had no objection to continuing the tax on goats allowed to graze in the forest as they were likely to destroy forest growth.

The CHIEF CONSERVATOR of FORESTS (Mr. M. Machaya) observed that the question had been discussed in the Assembly many a time in the past. The grazing fee was levied more to control grazing in the State forests than with the object of augmenting the revenue of the Forest Department. After all, the rate charged was very low, *viz.*, 4 annas per head of cattle for the period from December to May as against Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 levied in private kavals. The Deputy Commissioner could allow free grazing in District forests in deserving cases. Further, grazing of cattle was made free in times of drought. In the face of so many concessions, he was afraid that no case had been made out for abolishing the existing levy.

Mr. H. MALLAPPA GOWDA pointed out that the justification by the Forest Department of the fees levied at present could not stand to reason since all that

was available in the forests was lantana and no fodder.

Mr. M. MACHAYA replied that if that were the case, the raiyats would not have agitated for an extension of the grazing facilities in the State forests. He also refuted the statement that the raiyats had been contributing free labour in planting young trees, etc., for the improvement of the forests; as a matter of fact, the department was paying for all the work done by the raiyats.

Mr. SYED MOHIYUDDIN HUSSEIN (Sar Khaji) said that while cattle might be having enough fodder in the malnad, it was scarcely so in the maidan. He did not see why any restriction should be imposed on grazing in forests, seeing that there was a chance of the grass catching fire in summer and destroying the forest plantation. He therefore thought that in the interest of the safety of the plantations themselves, free grazing of cattle should be allowed.

The PRESIDENT replied that the suggestion would be examined.

No. 45.—Reduction of the *hulbanni* rate and abolition of seigniorage rate on fuel, timber, etc.

Messrs. H. MALLAPPA GOWDA, Sorab Taluk, and **K. CHANNAVEERAPPA,** Honnali Taluk.

Mr. V. V. IYER represented that the malnad raiyats had been paying several kinds of *hulbanni* even though there was no scope or need for them to send their cattle to the forest lands for grazing, for about 7 months in the year, specially during the rainy and winter seasons. It was only in summer that the difficulty for fodder was felt when they had to think of the forest lands. Unfortunately at that time the grass in the nearer forests would have been mostly burnt up and for fear of wild animals the cattle could not be taken into the interior of the forest. Thus the benefit actually derived by the raiyats was not commensurate with the grazing fees paid by them. He therefore prayed that the existing *hulbanni* rates might be reduced from 8 annas and 4 annas to 4 annas and 2 annas, respectively.

Proceeding, the speaker said that since the Chief Conservator had already stated that the Forest Department was not keen on adding to its revenue by levying grazing fees, the request for reduction of the rates could easily be granted.

He next referred to the question of seigniorage on fuel and timber required for domestic use and for agricultural implements, respectively, and explained that under the Malnad Raiyats' Privileges Rules, fuel and timber required for the *bona fide* use of the raiyats could be removed free from the District Forests. But it was a well-known fact that such timber, etc., was no longer available in any of the District Forests, and the raiyats had necessarily to get them from the State forests. He therefore prayed that the seigniorage levied by the Forest Department for the purpose might be abolished by extending the application of the rules referred to above.

Mr. K. CHANNAVEERAPPA endorsed all the points referred to by the previous speaker.

Mr. H. K. MADIAH represented that the existing *hulbanni* rates had been fixed when the prices of food-stuffs were ruling high and when the raiyats did not feel any difficulty in paying them. But, at the present time owing to economic depression, the prices of food-stuffs had gone very low and consequently the income of the raiyats had been cut short by nearly half. They were therefore unable to pay the existing rates. The income from the grazing fees was hardly Rs. 75,000 and the Government could easily forgo half of it by reducing the existing rates to the level suggested, in the interest of cattle.

The CHIEF CONSERVATOR of FORESTS (Mr. M. Machaya) said that it was not true that in the malnad, cattle were taken to the forests for grazing only in the summer season. In fact, cattle went there more in the rainy season than in summer. He observed that the existing *hulbanni* rates of 8 annas and 4 annas were quite reasonable, considering that the cattle could graze in any forest in the district. Besides, there was also the facility of a lumpsum grazing fee under which the

fees payable had been reduced by one-half in respect of the total number of cattle in any village. He pointed out that the object of the representation could be gained if the raiyats were willing to pay a lumpsum fee.

As regards fuel and timber, **Mr. MACHAYA** regretted that they could not be allowed to be removed free of cost from State forests in the interests of the conservation and improvement of forests.

Referring to the statement of the Chief Conservator that the *hulbanni* fee of 8 annas and 4 annas was justified on the ground that the raiyats had the option of taking their cattle throughout the district for grazing purposes, **Mr. S. C. MALLIAH** said that no one would avail himself of such a concession, except in seasons of drought and famine. As such, the concession was not really as beneficial as it was claimed to be. On the other hand, there was need for the proposed reduction since there would be no deterioration of the forests as a result of grazing by cattle. Taking into consideration the low economic condition of the raiyats and seeing that the income derived by the department was only paltry he prayed that the request might be granted.

No. 68.—Reciprocity in the matter of motor vehicles of the State entering British India and those of British India entering the State.

Messrs. Patti BASAPPA, and KAMAREDDI MALLAPPA, Molkalmuru Taluk.

Mr. Patti BASAPPA represented that the motor vehicles of the State could not, under the rules in force in British India, enter that territory without previously paying the taxes due and obtaining proper licences therefor. Under the rules recently passed in the State, motor vehicles of British India could not similarly enter the State freely. Owners of motor vehicles were thus deprived of their free use owing to those rules. He therefore prayed that the Government be pleased to provide, in consultation with the authorities of British India, necessary reciprocity for all vehicles both in British India and in the State.

The PRESIDENT replied that rules for the issue of short term licences for vehicles entering the State had been passed recently. As regards the question of reciprocal arrangements with the adjoining provinces, he said that the matter was under correspondence and that the terms as and when settled would be notified.

No. 69.—Reduction of court fee.

Messrs. VEERE GOWDA, Dodballapur Taluk; **S. KARIAPPA, M. LINGE GOWDA** and **Gurukar VENKATARAMANE GOWDA,** Kankanhalli Taluk; **T. MADIAH GOWDA** and **V. VENKATAPPA,** Channapatna Taluk; **R. DASAPPA** and **K. RUDRAPPA,** Devanhalli Taluk; **VEERASANJEEVA GOWDA** and **M. B. GURULINGIAH,** Closepet Taluk; **H. GANGAPPA,** Magadi Taluk; **S. SHARABANNA,** Anekal Taluk; **J. V. CHANNAPPA** and **GURUSWAMI GOWDA,** Hoskote Taluk; **B. M. MUNISWAMAPPA,** Bangalore Taluk; **S. T. MALLASETTAPPA,** Nelamangala Taluk; **B. L. BYANNA,** Bangalore City Municipality; **A. M. VENKATASAMIA,** Closepet Municipality; **S. G. SANKARAIAH,** Dodballapur Municipality; **Shroff RANGASWAMI SETTY,** Magadi Municipality; **Yejaman CHANNAPPA,** Devanhalli Municipality; **R. RANGAIYA,** Channapatna Municipality; **K. Y. T. VENKATACHALIAH,** Kankanhalli Municipality; **T. L. GANGOJI RAO, B. C. RANGAPPA, M. ABDUL JABBAR, S. MUNIVENKATAPPA** and **M. ABBOY,** Minorities; and **Mogenhalli SIDDE GOWDA,** Special Interests.

Mr. Shroff RANGASWAMI SETTY prayed that the court fee for the institution of civil suits might be reduced from 10 per cent to 7½ per cent.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA pointed out that while the rate of court fee for small cause cases in Bangalore Cantonment was 7½ per cent, it was 10 per cent in Bangalore City. The court fee had been enhanced in the State on the plea of financial stringency. But the finances of the State had since improved and Government had even gone to the extent of withdrawing the salary cuts imposed by them. Thus there was no longer any justification for the Government to earn profits from the Judicial Department by continuing the enhanced rates. He therefore prayed that the Government might order a reversion to the old scale of 7½ per cent.

Messrs. Bagamane DEVA GOWDA and **Tudki RAMANNA GOWDA** supported the above representation.

Mr. C. PATTABHIRAMA SETTY pointed out that at the time of the enhancement of the court fee to 10 per cent, a promise had been held out by the then Chief Justice that a concession would be shown to the litigants by way of not levying an additional fee for the second or third service of summons. But that promise had not at all been fulfilled. Hence he said that there was no justification for continuing the enhanced rate.

Mr. Belur SRINIVASIENGAR explained that the court fees had been enhanced purely as a temporary measure and on the understanding that they would be reduced to the original level as soon as the finances of the State improved. It was evident from the Administration Reports of past years that the working of the Judicial Department was resulting in large savings to the Government. But subsequently, in order to show a reduced profit, the Government went to the extent of charging off the expenditure on magisterial courts also to the same head. But even in spite of such manoeuvring, there was a saving of one lakh of rupees or so. This showed clearly that Government had made the question of dispensation of justice a commercial proposition. That, he said, was opposed to all principles of equity, justice and good conscience. He therefore felt that it was the duty of the Government to make a general reduction in court fees even though it might result in a loss of one or two lakhs of rupees. If such a general reduction be not considered feasible, he said that a beginning might be made with small cause courts where there were not even regular trials but only summary jurisdiction for which the existing rates were very high.

Proceeding, he added that in the matter of court fees, Mysore could copy the example of Madras which had recently reduced the rates to 7½ per cent.

Mr. Bale SIDDALINGA SETTY pointed out that there was no need to apprehend that the proposed reduction would result in a fall in revenue, because, with the reduction of rates, the number of suits was sure to mount up. Several money-lenders had refrained from filing suits because of the enhanced court fees and they would be the first to file suits if the rate was reduced.

The PRESIDENT replied that the question would be examined.

No. 74.—Establishing Munsiff-Magistrates' courts at taluk headquarters.

Messrs. BALE GOWDA and REVANNA GOWDA, Kunigal Taluk, and K. V. SUBRAHMANYASWAMI, Kunigal Municipality.

Mr. BALE GOWDA represented that poor people living in far off places were not likely to be benefited much by way of getting justice by the existing civil and criminal courts being located far away from villages. They could not attend the courts as well as attend to their agricultural operations in time. He therefore prayed that Munsiff-Magistrates' courts be established at all taluk headquarters.

No. 75.—Establishment of Munsiff-Magistrates' courts, one for every two taluks.

Mr. Bhupalam NANJUNDIAH, Hosadurga Taluk.

Mr. Bhupalam NANJUNDIAH represented that there were now at least two Munsiffs' courts and two Special Magistrates' courts in every district and as they were located in one place, much inconvenience was caused to the clients and the lawyers who happened to conduct the cases. For these reasons, he prayed that one Munsiff-Magistrate's court might be provided for every two taluks, for the convenience of the public, and he added that this proposal would not involve any extra expenditure.

No. 76.—Establishment of a Munsiff-Magistrate's court at Malvalli.

Mr. H. K. MADIAH, Malvalli Taluk.

Mr. H. K. MADIAH represented that civil and criminal cases of the Malvalli Taluk were being instituted in the Munsiff's and Magistrate's courts at Mandya and probably more than half the number of cases coming up before those courts related to Malvalli Taluk. There were not facilities enough for the people of Malvalli Taluk to go to Mandya and no conveniences for them to make any halt there. The people of

Malvalli Taluk were put to unnecessary expenditure and some of them were afraid to go to the courts on that account. To remedy these inconveniences, he prayed that a Munsiff-Magistrate's court be located at Malvalli very soon, the new court hall recently constructed in the Taluk Office being utilised for this purpose.

No. 77.—Conversion of the courts at Tarikere and Narasimharajapura to Munsiff-Magistrates' courts.

Messrs. T. C. BASAPPA and **HANJI BASAPPA**, Tarikere Taluk; and **MEER MAHOMED SAHIB**, Minorities.

Mr. T. C. BASAPPA prayed that the second grade Magistrate's court at Tarikere and the Munsiff's court at Narasimharajapura be converted into Munsiff-Magistrates' courts as it would greatly help the people.

The PRESIDENT observed that all these representations (Nos. 74 to 77) would be referred to the High Court for opinion.

No. 80.—Prohibition of the carriage of passengers in motor lorries.

Messrs. Bagamane DEVA GOWDA and **M. SIDDALINGAPPA SETTY**, Chickmagalur Taluk; **K. MALLE GOWDA**, Mudgere Taluk; **T. C. BASAPPA** and **HANJI BASAPPA**, Tarikere Taluk; and **C. R. NIRVANAPPA SETTY**, Special Interests.

Mr. Bagamane DEVA GOWDA prayed that carrying of passengers in motor lorries might be prohibited as it was causing loss to the owners of service buses and that a secret police staff might be appointed in every district to detect such unauthorised action on the part of lorry-owners and to book the culprits.

The PRESIDENT replied that the request would be considered.

No. 89.—Sanction of grants for the supply of cross-bred layings.

Mr. Mogenhalli SIDDE GOWDA, Special Interests.

Mr. Mogenhalli SIDDE GOWDA represented that the price of silk was going down day by day and this was operating as a great hardship on the raiyats of the State. He therefore prayed that an additional grant of Rs. 20,000 be provided in order to supply through the department or from the aided grainages, sufficient quantities of cross-bred layings to the raiyats.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau) replied that the question of increasing the supply of cross-bred layings was under the consideration of Government and that, if necessary, an additional grant would be recommended for the purpose.

At this stage, the Assembly rose for the day to meet again at 12 of the clock on the following day.

FIFTH DAY.

Friday, 30th October 1936.

The House reassembled at 12 of the clock, *Rajamantrapravina* S. P. Rajagopalachari, B.A., B.L., First Member of Council, in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—*contd.*

Land Mortgage Banks.

Q.—37. **Mr. G. P. RANGAPPA** (Honali Taluk).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) in how many taluks in which the Record of Rights Scheme has been introduced, have Land Mortgage Banks been established;

(*b*) in each of the taluks in which the banks have been established, how many persons have applied for loans; what is the total amount of such loans applied for;

(*c*) How many applicants have been granted loans? (Talukwar details for three years may be kindly furnished.)

A.—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT (Mr. M. Venkatesa Iyengar).**—

(*a*) Out of 50 taluks and six sub-taluks in which the Record of Rights Scheme has been introduced, the Land Mortgage Scheme has been extended to 18 taluks and four sub-taluks. Portions